United Nations S/2018/590

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 August 2018
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 15 August 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to respond to the identical letters dated 26 July 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2018/562). My Government regrets that Qatar has misrepresented the order indicating provisional measures that was rendered by the International Court of Justice on 23 July 2018. Indeed, the United Arab Emirates issued a statement on 24 July 2018 welcoming the Court's order. I also wish to note that the order "in no way prejudges the question of the jurisdiction of the Court to deal with the merits of the case or any questions relating to the admissibility of the Application or to the merits themselves" (see paragraph 78 of the order). I invite the members of the Security Council to read the full order circulated in the letter of the Secretary-General dated 30 July 2018 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2018/755).

Further, I should like to inform you that the measures adopted by my Government are already in compliance with the provisional measures indicated in the order. I transmit herewith the statements issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates on 5 July 2018 and 24 July 2018 respectively (see annex). I should like to reiterate that United Arab Emirates has the utmost respect and regard for the people of Qatar.

Lastly, I wish to take this opportunity to draw attention to the Court's fourth provisional measure, which the aforementioned letters from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations omitted to mention, and which provides that both Parties should refrain from any action which might aggravate or extend the dispute before the Court or make it more difficult to resolve. The United Arab Emirates is committed to complying with that order.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Lana Zaki **Nusseibeh**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

18-13622 (E) 200818 200818

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Annex I to the letter dated 15 August 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates dated 5 July 2018

Since its announcement of 5 June 2017, pursuant to which the United Arab Emirates took certain measures against Qatar for national security reasons, the United Arab Emirates has made it a requirement that all Qatari citizens overseas should obtain prior permission for entry into the United Arab Emirates. Permission may be granted for a limited period at the discretion of the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

The Ministry wishes to confirm that Qatari citizens already resident in the United Arab Emirates need not apply for permission to continue residing in the country. However, those who are planning to travel abroad are advised to obtain prior permission for re-entry into the United Arab Emirates.

All applications should be made via the telephone hotline announced on 11 June 2017 (+9718002626).

Owing to the false accusations made against it by Qatar, the United Arab Emirates deems it necessary to reaffirm its longstanding policy with regard to the entry and residence conditions applicable to persons of Qatari citizenship. On 5 June 2017, the United Arab Emirates announced that it was severing relations with Qatar in support of the decisions taken by the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. From that time, the United Arab Emirates did not take any legal or administrative measures to expel Qatari citizens from its territory. Nor did it take any such action after the expiration of the 14 day period referred to in the announcement of 5 June 2017.

The United Arab Emirates regrets that Qatar continues to misrepresent its policy on the entry and residence conditions applicable to Qatari citizens. It stresses that it has the utmost respect and regard for the people of Qatar.

The United Arab Emirates will keep in place the measures that it has taken against Qatar in order to address the threat it poses to regional security and the people of the United Arab Emirates. The United Arab Emirates calls on Qatar to respect its international obligations and to desist from its policy of supporting and sponsoring terrorist organizations and individuals, interfering in the internal affairs of neighbouring States, and giving a religious or media platform to extremists through media networks that are owned or supported by the Government of Qatar.

Annex II to the letter dated 15 August 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates dated 24 July 2018

The United Arab Emirates has issued a statement welcoming the order of the International Court of Justice dated 23 July 2018 regarding the provisional measures sought by Qatar under the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.

The text of the statement follows: The United Arab Emirates welcomes the order of the International Court of Justice dated July 2018 regarding the provisional measures sought by Qatar under the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. The Court refused to grant all of the provisional measures sought by Qatar. Instead, by a narrow margin, it indicated certain measures with which the United Arab Emirates is already in compliance. The Court order reflects the fact that the provisional measures sought by Qatar have no valid basis and are not supported by any evidence. In lieu of such unproductive manoeuvres, Qatar ought to engage with the legitimate concerns of the United Arab Emirates and the other three States that have severed relations with Qatar because of its continuing support for terrorism and its efforts to destabilize the region.

The United Arab Emirates reiterates that its measures are directed at the Qatari Government and not at the Qatari people. Contrary to the allegations made by Qatar, thousands of Qataris continue to reside in and visit the United Arab Emirates. Qatari visitors may enter the United Arab Emirates upon receiving prior permission, which can be requested via the telephone hotline announced on 11 June 2017.

The United Arab Emirates urges Qatar to engage constructively with the appeals that it has made, along with other countries, for Qatar to comply with its international obligations. As was said in the Ministry's statement of 5 July 2018, the United Arab Emirates welcomes Qatari citizens to its territory.